

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please amend the Specification pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121 as follows:

**I.** Please insert the following paragraph before the first line of the Specification:

**Cross-Reference to Related Applications**

This application is a U.S. National Stage Application under 35 U.S.C. §371 of PCT International Application No. PCT/EP00/01748, filed March 1, 2000, which claims priority to German Patent Application DE 199 26 006.0, filed June 8, 1999. Each of these applications is hereby incorporated by reference as if set forth in its entirety.

**II.** Please amend paragraph 0032 of the Specification as follows:

If the intention is to transmit a "1"-signal, then output transistor T\_Opto1 of transmitter circuit part 2a opens and the entire current  $I_q$  flows back from power supply 6 to the ground potential via data transmission line 8b, transistor T\_Opto1 and the ground line (reference potential line 8a). The voltage level of data transmission line 8b is nearly 0V (collector-emitter voltage of optocoupler Opto1 in the enabled condition  $V_{CE\_SAT\_T\_Opto1} \approx 0.2V$ ).